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má ostatně slovo „sekty“ ve svém názvu.
Náboženskou sektu na severu Čech
prověřu

ARTICLES

Czech Anti-Cult Movement

Nazism, Russian Influence, and Connections with American Deprogrammers

August 3, 2024 · 20 mins read

Audio by ElevenLabs

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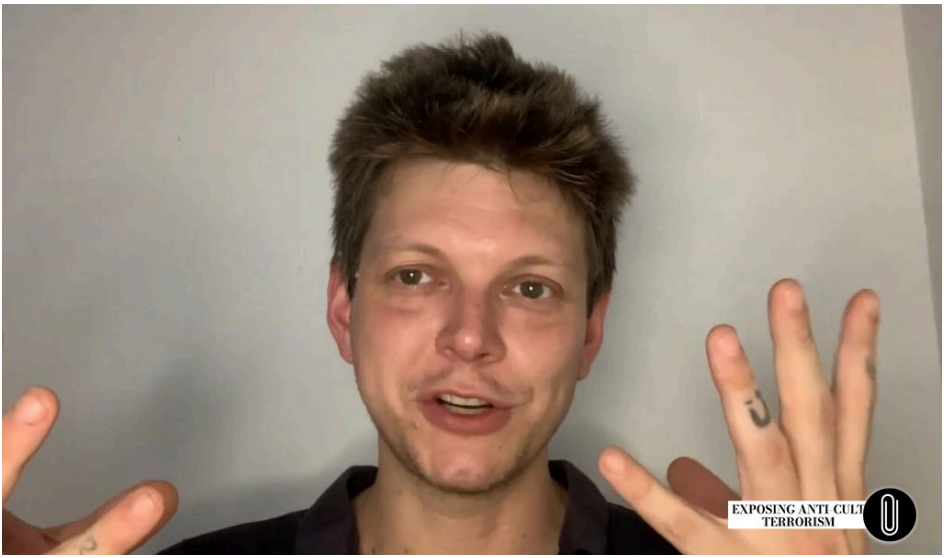
In recent years, the Czech anti-cult movement has become particularly active. These anti-cult activists operate across various internet platforms, have agents in the media, and create their own outlets. Their targets include organizations like Jehovah's Witnesses, Shincheonji Church, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and Scientologists. Some anti-cult activists and their agents in the media also target political figures such as American presidential candidate Donald Trump, Slovak politician Robert Fico, and Czech politician Andrej Babiš.

The Czech anti-cult movement has repeatedly been seen trying to claim its independence and distinction from anti-cult organizations in other countries. However, there are a number of factors in their activities that are direct indicators of the same pattern, the same instigation for action, and the same center of control.

Russian Influence in Czech Anti-Cult Tactics

Recently, on the page of Czech anti-cult activist Jakub Jahl, the phrase "Pomozte nám s **de**registrací Jehovistů" (Help us **de**register Jehovah's Witnesses) has appeared.

Jakub Jahl disseminates the classic narratives of anti-cultists



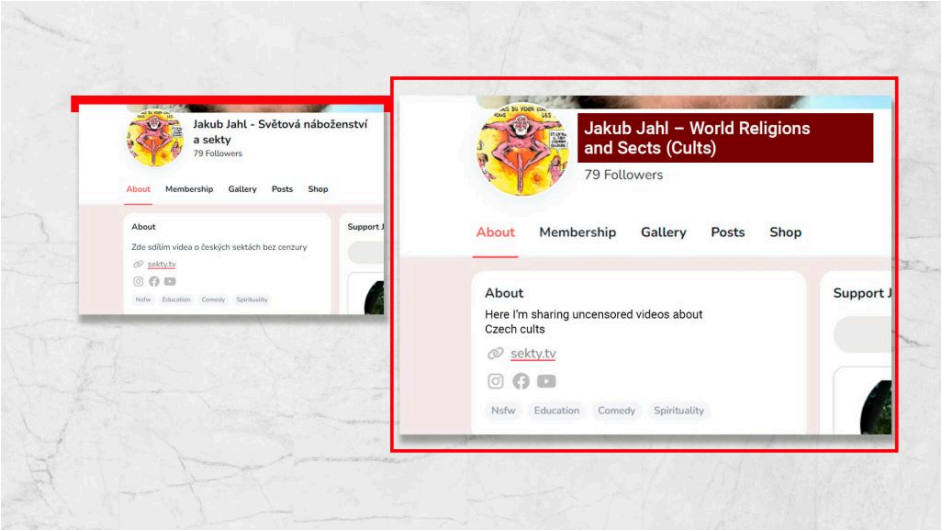
Czech anti-cult activist Jakub Jahl

The prefix "**de-**" is not new to anti-cult activists. It originated from expressions used by Russian cult fighters who

ideologically supported and prepared the war in Ukraine. They were the first to use phrases like “denazify” and “desatanize” Ukraine, spreading this narrative in the masses. Moreover, in Russia, driven by Russian anti-cult activists from RACIRS, there has been an ongoing and aggressive persecution of Jehovah’s Witnesses for many years.

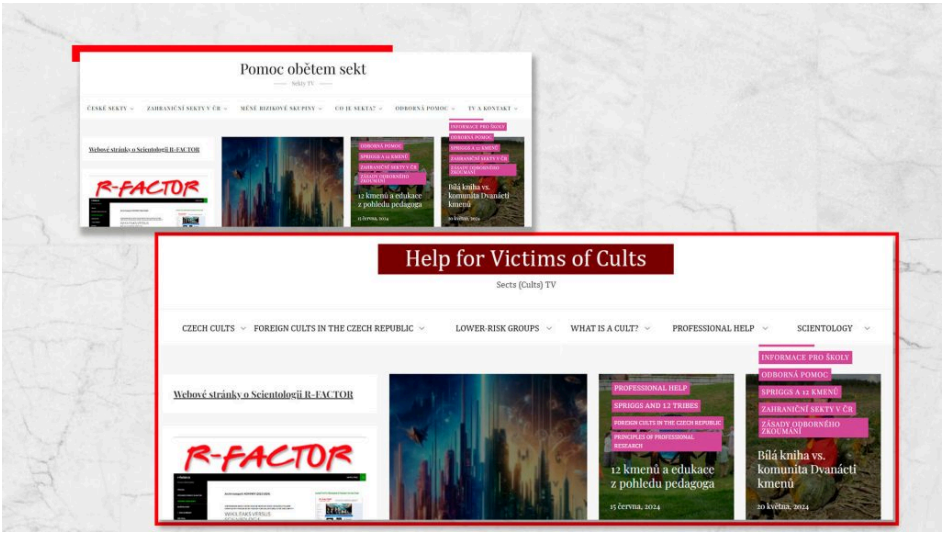
Why has this very narrative, particularly towards this religious movement, emerged in a European country like the Czech Republic? The search for an answer leads to some unsettling conclusions.

Additionally, Jakub Jahl references the website https://sekty.tv/ on his page.



Reference to sekty.tv, a Czech anti-cult video platform

It should be noted that the name of the website «Pomoc obětem sekt» (“Help for **Victims** of Cults”). This wording conveys an appearance of supposedly good intentions, but is actually a deliberate manipulation. The very notion of “victims” inherently suggests the presence of a “perpetrator,” leading website visitors to form a negative moral judgment about organizations labeled as “cults” and aligning them with the anti-cultists’ perspective, while discouraging any critical assessment of their publications. The site’s creators appeal to the unconscious human need of their readers, who suddenly discover that they require protection. This heightened demand for security further reinforces the anti-cult rhetoric in them, precluding any attempts to critically evaluate the information presented by anti-cultists.



Screenshot from Czech website sekty.tv

One of the few names associated with the site sekty.tv, aside from Jakub Jahl, is K. Ciroková.

Screenshot from Czech website sekty.tv

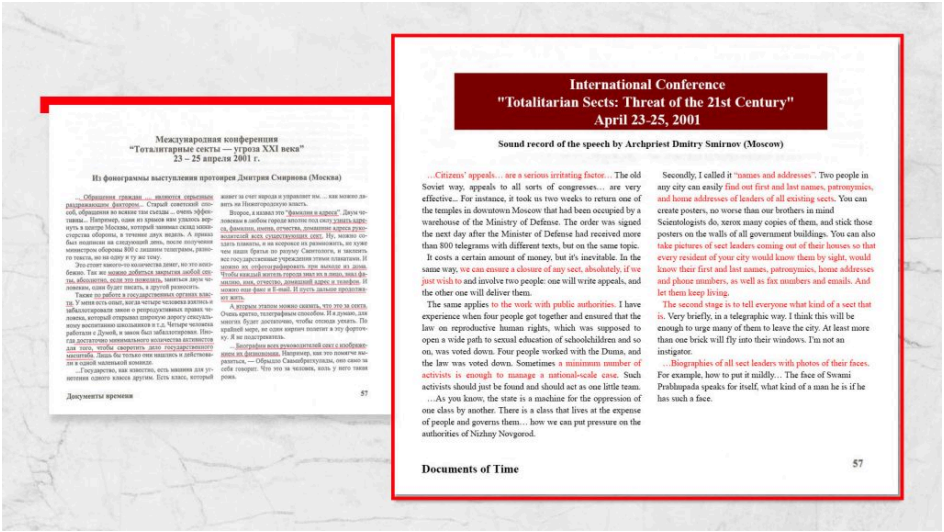
Kristina Ciroková, as it turns out, is a reporter for Czech media who actively covers new religious movements, labeling them as “sects” and “cults” and violating all democratic principles, the presumption of innocence, and journalistic ethics. What is the reason for such destructive human activity? What drives a journalist to break laws and international human rights, act against their fellow citizens, and risk criminal liability just to please their mentors from RACIRS? Moreover, many of her publications are also filled with criticism of the government, law enforcement, and numerous baseless accusations, either distorting existing facts or presenting no evidence at all.

Kristina Ciroková

An analysis of Kristina Ciroková's activities (articles on Seznam Zprávy and episodes of the video program Terén) and Jakub Jahl's work (particularly his YouTube channel: BA. Jakub Jahl – Religions and Cults (Sects)) reveals clear parallels with the actions of Russian anti-cultists. Moreover, the methods used by both Ciroková and Jahl align perfectly with instructions found in Russian anti-cult manuals from RACIRS. For example:

International Conference "Totalitarian Sects: The Threat of the 21st Century," 2001

Archpriest Dmitry Smirnov stated:



Международная конференция
"Тоталитарные секты — угроза XXI века"
23 – 25 апреля 2001 г.

Из фонограммы выступления протоиерея Дмитрия Смирнова (Москва)

...Обращения граждан ... являются серьезным раздражающим фактором... Старый советский способ, обращения во всякие там съезды ... очень эффективны... Например, один из приказов мне удалось вернуть в центре Москвы, который занимал склад министерства обороны, в течение двух недель. А приказ был подписан на следующий день, после получения министром обороны 800 с лишним телеграмм, разного текста, но по одну и ту же тему.

Это стоит много-то количества денег, но это неизбежно. Так же можно добиться закрытия любой секты, абсолютно, если это повезешь, заняться двум человекам, один будет писать, а другой размножать.

Также по работе в государственных органах власти. У меня есть опыт, когда четыре человека взялись и заблаготворили окно с репродуктивных правах человека, который открывал широкую дорогу сексуальному воспитанию школьников и т.д. Четыре человека работали с Думой, и закон был заблаготворен. Иногда достаточно минимального количества активистов для того, чтобы сворочить дело государственного масштаба. Здесь бы только они нашлись и действовали в одной маленькой комнате.

...Государство, как известно, есть машина для угнетения одного класса другим. Есть класс, который живет за счет народа и управляет им, ... как можно дальше на Нижегородскую власть.

Второе, я сказал про "фамилии и адреса". Двум человекам в любом городе вполне под силу узнать адреса, фамилии, имена, отчества, домашние адреса руководителей всех существующих сект. Ну, можно сделать плакаты, и на воскресе их размножить, но нужно чем наши братья по разуму Светологи, и заклеить все государственные учреждения этими плакатами. И можно их сфотографировать три выходе из дома. Чтобы каждый житель города знал их в лицо, знал фамилию, имя, отчество, домашний адрес и телефон. И можно еще факс и E-mail. И пусть дальше продолжает жить.

А вторая стадия можно сказать, что это за секта. Очень кратко, телеграфным способом. И я думаю, для многих будет достаточно, чтобы отнюдь узнать. По крайней мере, не один квартал полетит в эту форточку. Я не подстрекатель.

Биографии всех руководителей сект с изображениями их физиономий. Например, как это помягче выразиться, — Обрыдло Сакьябратхупалы, оно само за себя говорит. Что это за человек, коль у него такие рожи.

Документы времени 57

International Conference
"Totalitarian Sects: Threat of the 21st Century"
April 23-25, 2001

Sound record of the speech by Archpriest Dmitry Smirnov (Moscow)

...Citizens' appeals... are a serious irritating factor... The old Soviet way, appeals to all sorts of congresses... are very effective... For instance, it took us two weeks to return one of the temples in downtown Moscow that had been occupied by a warehouse of the Ministry of Defense. The order was signed the next day after the Minister of Defense had received more than 800 telegrams with different texts, but on the same topic.

It costs a certain amount of money, but it's inevitable. In the same way, we can ensure a closure of any sect, absolutely, if we just wish to and involve two people: one will write appeals, and the other one will deliver them.

The same applies to the work with public authorities. I have experience when four people got together and ensured that the law on reproductive human rights, which was supposed to open a wide path to sexual education of schoolchildren and so on, was voted down. Four people worked with the Duma, and the law was voted down. Sometimes a minimum number of activists is enough to manage a national-scale case. Such activists should just be found and should act as one little team.

...As you know, the state is a machine for the oppression of one class by another. There is a class that lives at the expense of people and governs them... how we can put pressure on the authorities of Nizhny Novgorod.

Secondly, I called it "names and addresses". Two people in any city can easily find out first and last names, patronymics, and home addresses of leaders of all existing sects. You can create posters, no worse than our brothers in mind Scientologists do, xerox many copies of them, and stick those posters on the walls of all government buildings. You can also take pictures of sect leaders coming out of their houses so that every resident of your city would know them by sight, would know their first and last names, patronymics, home addresses and phone numbers, as well as fax numbers and emails. And let them keep living.

The second stage is to tell everyone what kind of a sect that is. Very briefly, in a telegraphic way. I think this will be enough to urge many of them to leave the city. At least more than one brick will fly into their windows. I'm not an instigator.

...Biographies of all sect leaders with photos of their faces. For example, how to put it mildly... The face of Swami Prabhupada speaks for itself, what kind of a man he is if he has such a face.

Documents of Time 57

Screenshot from Independent Psychiatric Association of Russia website npar.ru
INDEPENDENT PSYCHIATRIC JOURNAL 'IPA HERALD', issue 3, 2001

Archpriest Dmitry Smirnov

Dmitry Smirnov

Screenshot from the website of Independent Psychiatric Association of Russia npar.ru INDEPENDENT PSYCHIATRIC JOURNAL 'IPA HERALD', issue 3, 2001

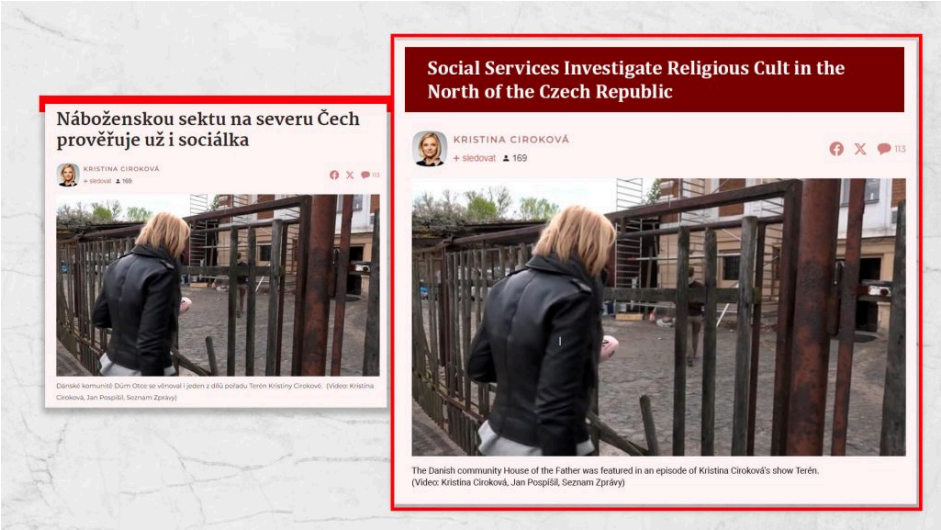
It's worth noting that these instructions were given 23 years ago. Posters and newspapers were methods of that time, and today, the Internet plays a dominant role. While the form of information delivery has changed, the essence of the methods to combat undesirable organizations remains the same:

- Disseminating false information about organizations using derogatory labels like "sect," "cult," "totalitarian sect," and "destructive cult".
- Provoking and inciting citizens, and creating public opinion favorable to anti-cult organizations.
- Exerting pressure on authorities.
- Creating organizations composed of young people and students to infiltrate targeted organizations in order to

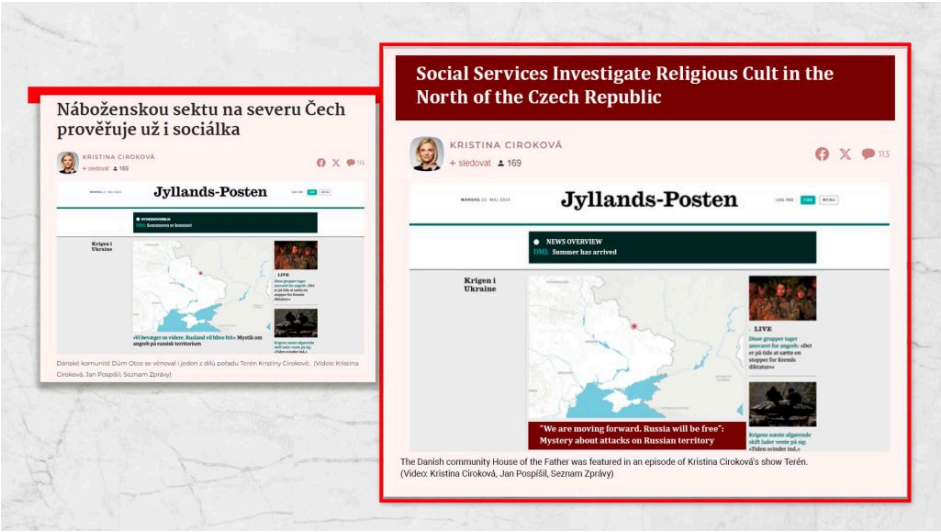
gather information and report it back to anti-cult handlers, and also to destabilize those organizations.

- Disseminating information about members of labeled organizations with description of details such as names, home and work addresses, phone numbers, and creating photo and video materials, including with their appearance and place of residence, and publishing them in a defamatory context.
- Making baseless accusations and using facts which are either unverified, that is, taken from the public domain, or deliberately fabricated.

Kristina Ciroková and Jakub Jahl are well-versed in violating their country's constitution, international human rights, and infringing on privacy and confidentiality [1, 2, 3]*:*


Náboženskou sektu na severu Čech prověřuje už i sociálka
KRISTINA CIROKOVÁ
+ sledovat 169
Social Services Investigate Religious Cult in the North of the Czech Republic
KRISTINA CIROKOVÁ
+ sledovat 169
The Danish community House of the Father was featured in an episode of Kristina Ciroková's show Terén.
(Video: Kristina Ciroková, Jan Pospíšil, Seznam Zprávy)

From the Czech news web portal seznamzpravy.cz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KRISTINA CIROKOVÁ
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Jyllands-Posten
NEWS OVERVIEW
Summer has arrived
Krigen i Ukraine
LIVE
"We are moving forward. Russia will be free"; Mystery about attacks on Russian territory
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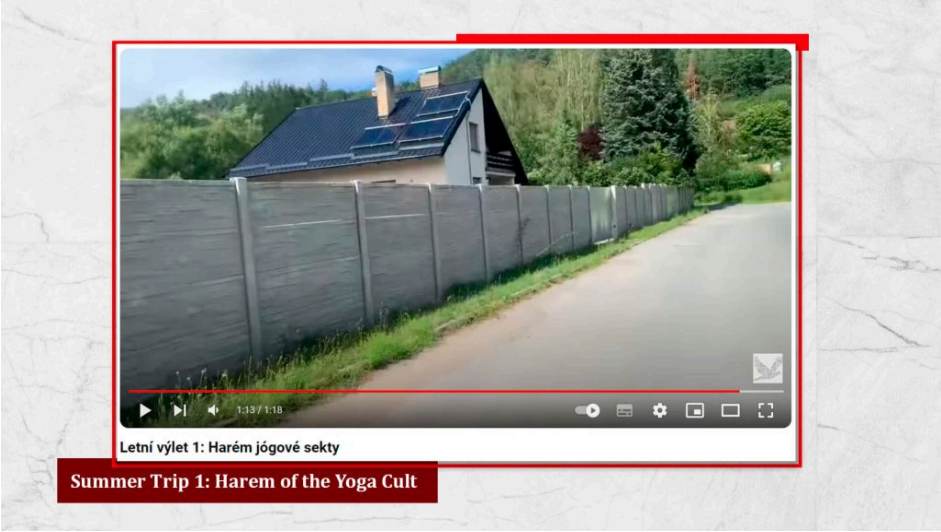


Screenshot from video on Jakub Jahl's YouTube Channel

As these anti-cult activists directly influence the Czech media landscape, the reason behind the strongly negative perception

of new religious movements in Czech society becomes clear. Their rhetoric is strictly black-and-white, where white represents themselves and black represents the organizations they label as "cults." Anti-cult activists present rumors and gossip from other sources (sometimes deemed reputable) with such confidence that they often see no need to provide more reliable evidence. This results in a double hermeneutic effect, where previously formed conclusions and concepts about a subject become so ingrained in society's everyday life that they alter people's mindset and significantly influence new research on the subject. Journalists in the media who are agents of RACIRS and their collaborators do not aim for systematic in-depth study of specialized literature, other viewpoints, or analysis to detect fake news and defamation in the sources they find. Instead, their work relies on borrowing previously published information, regardless of its accuracy. Their goal is an informational terror attack, an explosion among the masses, imprinting the image of a "cultist" in the public mind and marking them as a target for society. Therefore, a middle ground is unacceptable to anti-cultists.

Charles University in Prague

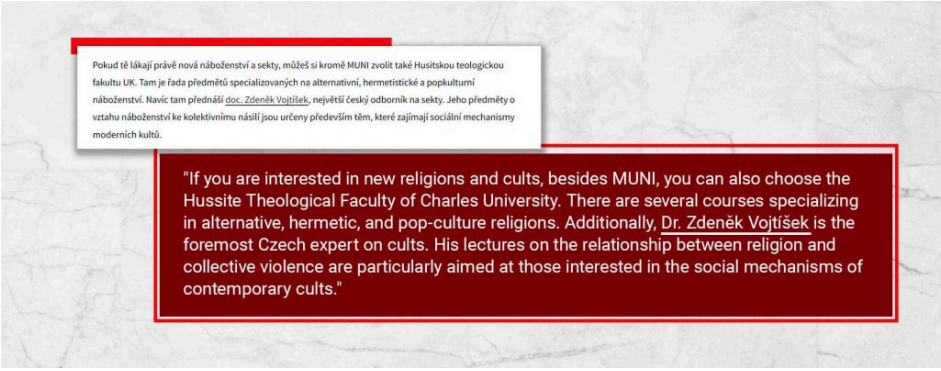
Charles University – the Hotbed of Czech Anti-Cultism

The portal *Studentské Listy* states that Jakub Jahl is a student at **Charles University**, specializing in Religious Studies. [4]

Jakub Jahl
Jakub Jahl
Student Univerzity Karlovy, oboru Religionistika. Už 10 let natáčí videa o světových náboženstvích a sektách na Youtube.
A student of Religious Studies at Charles University. Jakub has been creating videos about world religions and cults on YouTube for the past 10 years.

From the website of Czech students' media platform slisty.cz

On this same portal[5], Jakub Jahl references Zdeněk Vojtíšek, head of the Department of Religious Studies at the Hussite Theological Faculty of Charles University, and an associate professor at the Protestant Theological Faculty of Charles University.


Pokud tě lákají právě nová náboženství a sekty, můžeš si kromě MUNI zvolit také Husitskou teologickou fakultu UK. Tam je řada předmětů specializovaných na alternativní, hermetistické a popkulturní náboženství. Navíc tam přednáší doc. Zdeněk Vojtíšek, největší český odborník na sekty. Jeho předměty o vztahu náboženství ke kolektivnímu násilí jsou určeny především těm, které zajímají sociální mechanismy moderních kultů.
"If you are interested in new religions and cults, besides MUNI, you can also choose the Hussite Theological Faculty of Charles University. There are several courses specializing in alternative, hermetic, and pop-culture religions. Additionally, Dr. Zdeněk Vojtíšek is the foremost Czech expert on cults. His lectures on the relationship between religion and collective violence are particularly aimed at those interested in the social mechanisms of contemporary cults."

From the website of Czech students' media platform slisty.cz

Similarly to Jakub Jahl, Kristina Ciroková frequently references Zdeněk Vojtíšek in her work[6]:

"*About this cult, which is rooted in the Christian tradition, our leading expert on new religious movements, religious scholar Zdeněk Vojtíšek from the Hussite Theological Faculty of Charles University, has been writing for years in the religious studies journal Dingir. He also lectures about the Twelve Tribes to his students. According to the official list, he is also the only court expert in the country who specializes in religious extremism and terrorism.*"

Ideological Mentor and Curator of Czech Anti-Cultism Zdeněk Vojtíšek

Zdeněk Vojtíšek: Ideological Mentor and Curator of Czech Anti-Cultism

Zdeněk Vojtíšek is a prominent anti-cult activist in the Czech Republic and one of those who often claims their approach to be independent, unbiased, and open to dialogue. He has frequently mentioned this in various issues of the journal *Dingir*, where he has been the editor-in-chief and founder since 1998. But is this really the case? Let's examine some details observed in Vojtíšek's practices:

- **He uses the label "cult" despite its inherently derogatory connotation.** The editor-in-chief of *Dingir* concluded that there is no need to replace this term with a less pejorative one, as other scholars, such as James Richardson, have done (terms like 'emergent religion', 'charismatic group', and 'new religious movement' are used in the English-speaking world). According to Zdeněk Vojtíšek, the term 'sect' or 'cult' accurately reflects the majority's rejection of the group (Vojtíšek 2004).[7]

"*...the word 'cult' will certainly remain in religious studies and likely on the pages of Dingir journal as well." — Zdeněk Vojtíšek*

Slovo, které je odborným pojmem i nadávkou
CO SE SLOVEM „SEKTA"?
Zdeněk Vojtíšek
Téma pojmu „sekta" se na stránkách Dingiru objevuje už po několikáté. Je to přirozené: diskuse na toto téma patří k evergreenům sociologie náboženství i religionistiky a „časopis o současné náboženské scéně" se mu nemůže vyhnout. Úvodní článek tohoto čísla má ostatně slovo „sekty" ve svém názvu.
A Word that is Both a Technical Term and an Insult
WHAT TO DO WITH THE WORD "CULT"?
Zdeněk Vojtíšek
The topic around the term "cult" has appeared on the pages of Dingir several times. This is natural: discussions on this topic are evergreen in the sociology of religion and religious studies, and a "journal on the contemporary religious arena" cannot avoid it. After all, the introductory article of this issue has the word "cults" in its title.

From the Dingir magazine website dingir.cz (editor-in-chief czech anti-cutlist Zdeněk Vojtíšek)

- **Inconsistent Treatment of Different Religious Organizations:** Jehovah's Witnesses, Mormons, and

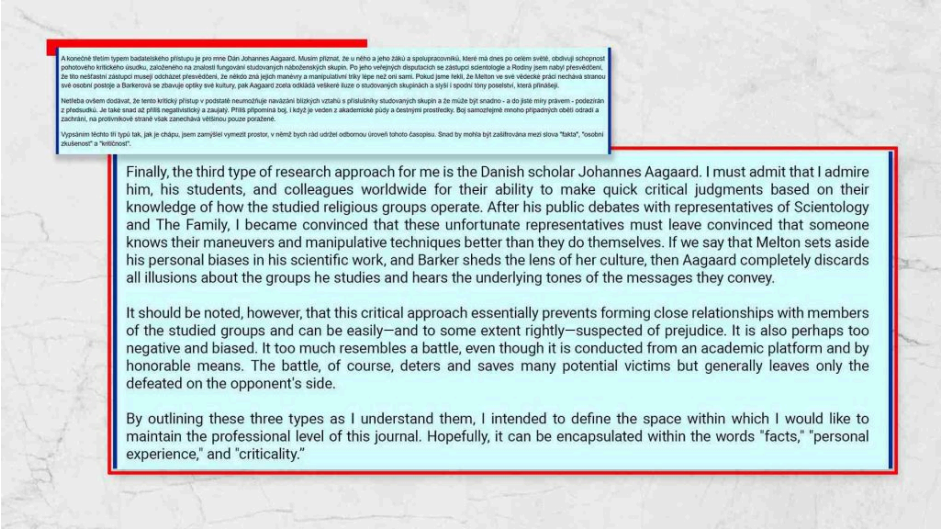
Scientologists often face criticism despite their registered status as churches, unlike the established religions.

- **Double Standards and Implicit Discrimination:** The principle of "not referring to religious groups in offensive or disparaging terms" is not upheld in practice. For example, the recruitment of new members into new religious movements and their initial involvement is frequently compared to drug addiction, a term with inherently negative connotations.
- **Monopoly on Opinion:** The narratives promoted by Czech anti-cultists regarding new religious movements align closely with those in Czech media, indicating direct interaction between the two. Moreover, their undeniable influence over the press is evident because the opinions from other religious scholars who are not part of this anti-cult group are simply disregarded by journalists. Since the early 1990s, the Czech press has consulted exclusively Zdeněk Vojtíšek and his colleagues on religious matters. This phenomenon limits freedom of speech and diversity of opinions and contradicts fundamental democratic principles.

Furthermore, in an issue of *Dingir*, Zdeněk Vojtíšek expressed his admiration for Johannes Aagaard and his global network of students and colleagues[8]:

"*...Finally, the third type of research approach for me is the Danish scholar Johannes Aagaard.* ***I must admit that I admire him, his students, and colleagues worldwide for their ability to***

make quick critical judgments based on their knowledge of how the studied religious groups operate. *After his public debates with representatives of Scientology and the Family, I became convinced that these unfortunate representatives must leave convinced that someone knows their maneuvers and manipulative techniques better than they do themselves. If we say that Melton sets aside his personal biases in his scientific work, and Barker sheds the lens of her culture, then* ***Aagaard completely discards all illusions about the groups he studies and hears the underlying tones of the messages they convey.***"



Finally, the third type of research approach for me is the Danish scholar Johannes Aagaard. I must admit that I admire him, his students, and colleagues worldwide for their ability to make quick critical judgments based on their knowledge of how the studied religious groups operate. After his public debates with representatives of Scientology and The Family, I became convinced that these unfortunate representatives must leave convinced that someone knows their maneuvers and manipulative techniques better than they do themselves. If we say that Melton sets aside his personal biases in his scientific work, and Barker sheds the lens of her culture, then Aagaard completely discards all illusions about the groups he studies and hears the underlying tones of the messages they convey.

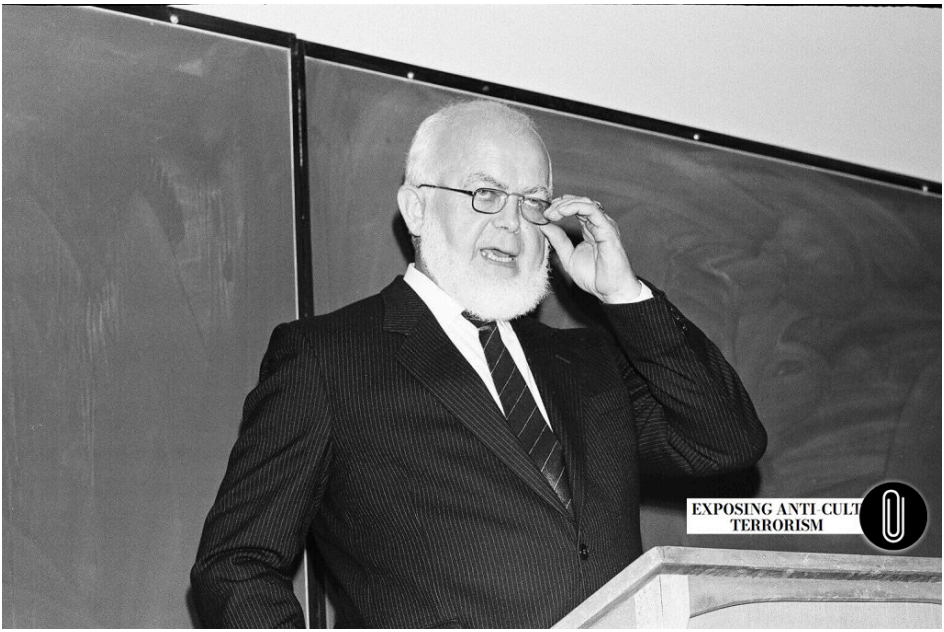
It should be noted, however, that this critical approach essentially prevents forming close relationships with members of the studied groups and can be easily—and to some extent rightly—suspected of prejudice. It is also perhaps too negative and biased. It too much resembles a battle, even though it is conducted from an academic platform and by honorable means. The battle, of course, deters and saves many potential victims but generally leaves only the defeated on the opponent's side.

By outlining these three types as I understand them, I intended to define the space within which I would like to maintain the professional level of this journal. Hopefully, it can be encapsulated within the words "facts," "personal experience," and "criticality."

From the Dingir magazine website dingir.cz (editor-in-chief czech anti-cutlist Zdeněk Vojtíšek).

To truly understand the admiration for Johannes Aagaard and his followers, as well as what kind of people they are and

whose followers they are, it is essential to focus on this figure and his connections with other anti-cultists.



Johannes Aagaard

Johannes Aagaard and Wilhelm Haack: The Nazi Legacy and the Creation of Dialog Center International (DCI)

Johannes Aagaard, a Dane, is considered the father of the modern anti-cult movement and a mentor to many well-

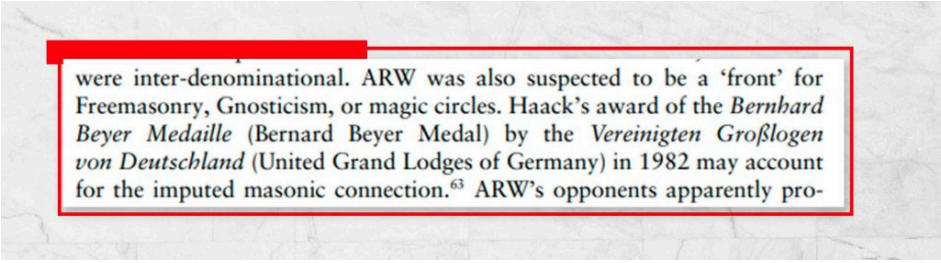
known anti-cult activists worldwide. He continued the 20th-century anti-cult tradition dating back to the Third Reich.

Aagaard founded Dialog Center International (DCI) in 1973 with the help of his "brother in faith" Wilhelm Haack, who became the vice-president and co-founder of the international Dialog Center in 1981. Before this, in 1964, Haack was appointed as the Commissioner for Sects and Faith Issues of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bavaria, continuing the work of Nazi ideologue, theologian, anti-Semite, and anti-cult predecessor Walter Künneth. Haack became the leading anti-cult ideologist in Europe. Speaking about his appointment as Sektenbeauftragter, Haack stated it was a coincidence and providence [9]:

"I am inclined to believe that things just happen. Call it providence, if you will" (Wartmann and Madaj, 1987: 109).

However, this was not a coincidence. Wilhelm Haack studied Protestant theology in Bavaria at the University of Nuremberg at the same time when Walter Künneth was a professor of Protestant theology there. In the early 1970s, Haack revived the Nazi-era name "Working Group on Religious and Ideological Issues," previously known as the "Department of Religious and Ideological Issues" under the Nazis. It is worth noting that Wilhelm Haack was linked to Freemasonry, as evidenced by his

receiving the Bernhard Beyer Medaille from the United Grand Lodges of Germany (Vereinigten Großlogen von Deutschland) in 1982. Haack accepted the award but explained to the public that it was a token of appreciation for his publication on Freemasonry (Haack, 1981b).

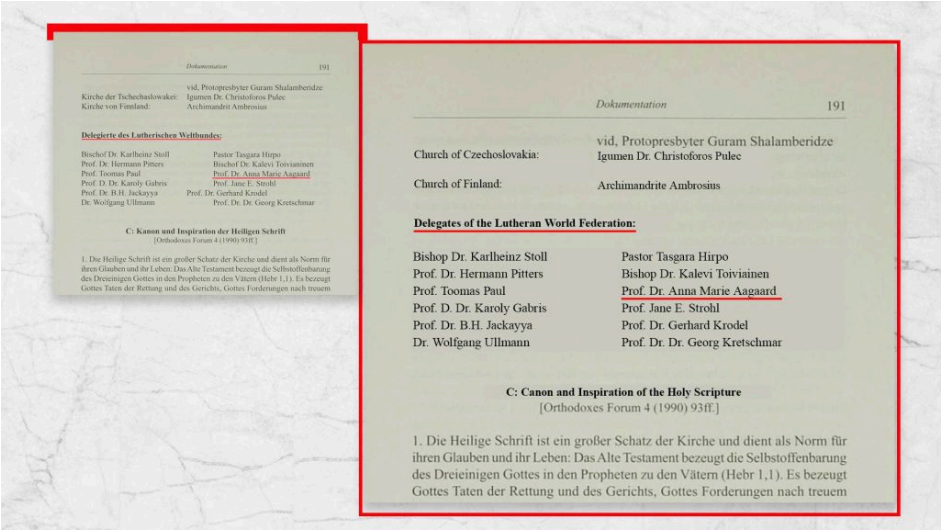


were inter-denominational. ARW was also suspected to be a 'front' for Freemasonry, Gnosticism, or magic circles. Haack's award of the *Bernhard Beyer Medaille* (Bernard Beyer Medal) by the *Vereinigten Großlogen von Deutschland* (United Grand Lodges of Germany) in 1982 may account for the imputed masonic connection.[63] ARW's opponents apparently pro-

From library.oapen.org

Wilhelm Haack

In 1985, Wilhelm Haack was appointed to the Committee for Interfaith Dialogue of the Lutheran World Federation and joined the advisory board of the American Family Foundation (now the International Cultic Studies Association). Another delegate from the **Lutheran World Federation** was the **wife of Johannes Aagaard**, Professor Dr. **Anna Marie Aagaard** [10].



Dokumentation 191

vid, Protopresbyter Guram Shalamberidze
Church of Czechoslovakia: Igumen Dr. Christoforos Pulec
Church of Finland: Archimandrite Ambrosius

Delegates of the Lutheran World Federation:

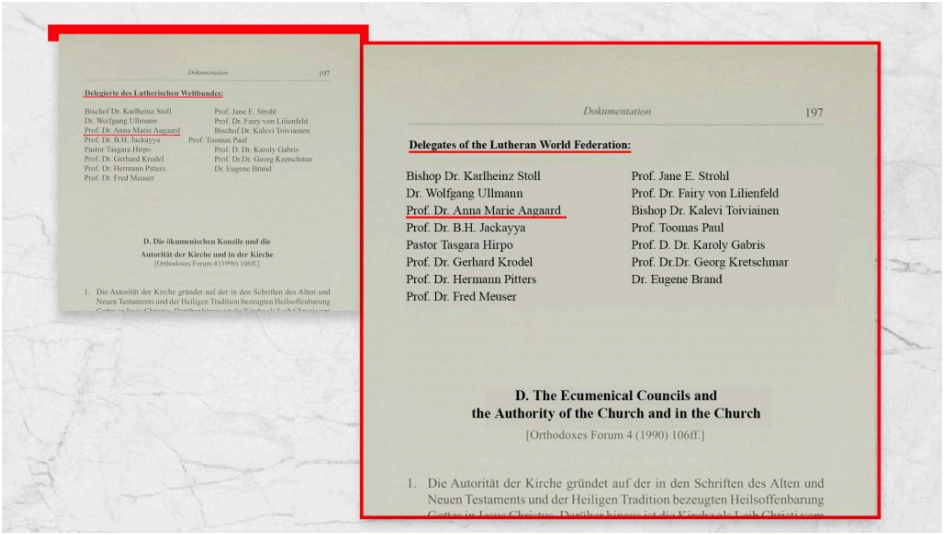
Bishop Dr. Karlheinz Stoll	Pastor Tasgara Hirpo
Prof. Dr. Hermann Pitters	Bishop Dr. Kalevi Toiviainen
Prof. Toomas Paul	Prof. Dr. Anna Marie Aagaard
Prof. D. Dr. Karoly Gabris	Prof. Jane E. Strohl
Prof. Dr. B.H. Jackayya	Prof. Dr. Gerhard Krodel
Dr. Wolfgang Ullmann	Prof. Dr. Dr. Georg Kretschmar

C: Canon and Inspiration of the Holy Scripture
[Orthodoxes Forum 4 (1990) 93ff.]

1. Die Heilige Schrift ist ein großer Schatz der Kirche und dient als Norm für ihren Glauben und ihr Leben: Das Alte Testament bezeugt die Selbstoffenbarung des Dreieinigen Gottes in den Propheten zu den Vätern (Hebr 1,1). Es bezeugt Gottes Taten der Rettung und des Gerichts, Gottes Forderungen nach treuem

From website unipub.uni-graz.at (University of Graz, Austria)

Dr. Anna Marie Aagaard



Dokumentation 197

Delegierte des Lutherischen Weltbundes:

Bischof Dr. Karlheinz Stoll
Dr. Wolfgang Ullmann
Prof. Dr. Anna Marie Aagaard
Prof. Dr. B.H. Jackayya
Pastor Tasgara Hirpo
Prof. Dr. Gerhard Krodel
Prof. Dr. Hermann Pitters
Prof. Dr. Fred Meuser

Prof. Jane E. Strohl
Prof. Dr. Fairy von Lilienfeld
Bischof Dr. Kalevi Toiviainen
Prof. Toomas Paul
Prof. D. Dr. Karoly Gabris
Prof. Dr.Dr. Georg Kretschmar
Dr. Eugene Brand

D. Die ökumenischen Konzile und die Autorität der Kirche und in der Kirche
[Orthodoxes Forum 4 (1990) 106ff.]

1. Die Autorität der Kirche gründet auf der in den Schriften des Alten und Neuen Testaments und der Heiligen Tradition bezeugten Heilsoffenbarung

Dokumentation 197

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Prof. D. Dr. Karoly Gabris
Prof. Dr.Dr. Georg Kretschmar
Dr. Eugene Brand

D. The Ecumenical Councils and the Authority of the Church and in the Church
[Orthodoxes Forum 4 (1990) 106ff.]

1. Die Autorität der Kirche gründet auf der in den Schriften des Alten und Neuen Testaments und der Heiligen Tradition bezeugten Heilsoffenbarung

From website unipub.uni-graz.at (University of Graz, Austria)

Johannes Aagaard, along with Thomas Gandow, established the apologetic journal “BERLINER DIALOG,” which is similar to the

Update & Dialog publication of the Dialog Center. Thomas Gandow, a Lutheran pastor and the new president of DCI, was awarded the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany in 2012.

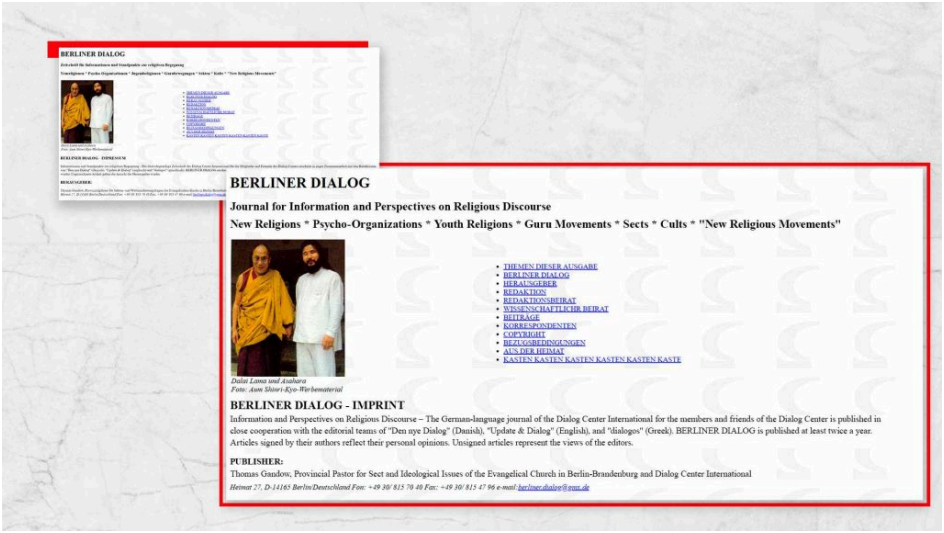
In addition to Germany and Denmark, DCI established branches in Ireland, Russia, and the United Kingdom. According to information on the website of religious scholar Zdeněk Vojtíšek, he studied in both the United Kingdom and the USA. It is possible that, while admiring the students and colleagues of Johannes Aagaard, Vojtíšek visited their UK branch during his stay there to gain experience or access relevant literature [11].

"*I attempted to supplement my education mainly during three stays abroad – the longest in the United Kingdom and twice in the United States*."

"*In 2003, thanks to my study stay in the United States (and thus thanks to almost unlimited access to relevant advisory, psychological, and theological professional literature), I found a suitable model.*"

In the journal "BERLINER DIALOG" of the International Dialogue Center, editorial staff and correspondents are acknowledged. Among the editorial staff, Johannes Aagaard

and Thomas Gandow are noted, while among the correspondents, Zdeněk Vojtíšek is mentioned [12].



BERLINER DIALOG

Journal for Information and Perspectives on Religious Discourse

New Religions * Psycho-Organizations * Youth Religions * Guru Movements * Sects * Cults * "New Religious Movements"

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Dalai Lama und Asahara
Foto: Aum Shinri-Kyo-Werbematerial

BERLINER DIALOG - IMPRINT

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PUBLISHER:

Thomas Gandow, Provincial Pastor for Sect and Ideological Issues of the Evangelical Church in Berlin-Brandenburg and Dialog Center International

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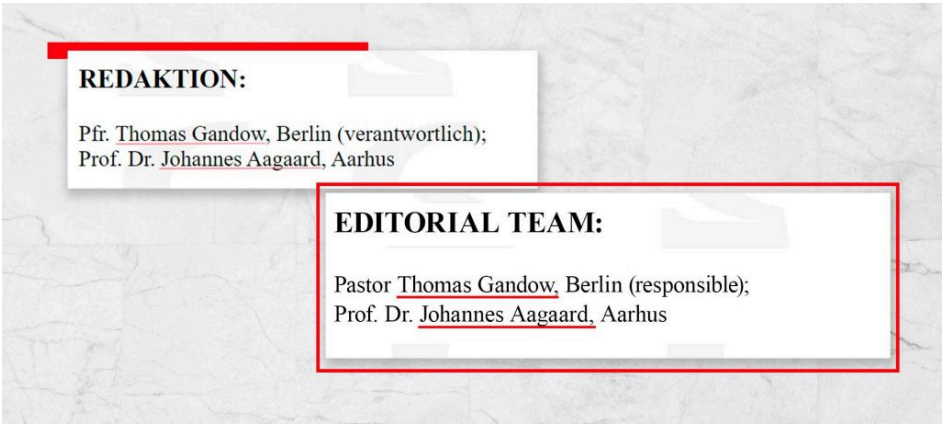

REDAKTION:

Pfr. Thomas Gandow, Berlin (verantwortlich);
Prof. Dr. Johannes Aagaard, Aarhus

EDITORIAL TEAM:

Pastor Thomas Gandow, Berlin (responsible);
Prof. Dr. Johannes Aagaard, Aarhus

From BERLINER DIALOG website religio.de

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From BERLINER DIALOG website religio.de

Another favorite student of Johannes Aagaard, whom he repeatedly defended in court, is Alexander Dvorkin, Vice President of DCI and its representative in Russia. The extent of the influence these individuals have on society and all the destructive consequences of this influence are thoroughly detailed in the documentary film "The IMPACT" (2024). It is important to note that in **1993**, Alexander Dvorkin initiated the anti-cult movement in Russia by founding the Information and Consultation Center in the name of St. Irenaeus of Lyons, of which he remains president to this day. The Center in the name of Irenaeus of Lyons is also modeled entirely after the Nazi apologetic center created by Walter Künneth.

1993

1993 was a pivotal year in the plans for global anti-cultism. In addition to the opening of the anti-cult center in Russia, similar events took place around the world (including in the Czech Republic), which contributed to the active development of international anti-cult organizations in the following decades.

Specifically:

- **FECRIS Federation**: Although it was officially established in 1994, it was in **1993** that a decision to create the umbrella organization FECRIS was made at an international symposium organized by the Spanish association A.I.S. in Barcelona at the request of the French anti-cult association UNADFI. FECRIS would later encompass many anti-cult organizations established in different countries.
- **In 1993, in the United States**, the activities of American anti-cultists and deprogrammers like **Rick Ross** and **Steven Hassan** sharply increased. They effectively received a green light for their activities, gaining expanded opportunities. American media, government representatives, and even law enforcement agencies (including the FBI) began consulting them.
- **In 1993, in the Czech Republic,** the anti-cult association called the "Society for the Study of Sects and New Religious Movements" was founded. One of its founders is Zdeněk Vojtíšek.

The Society for the Study of Sects and New Religious Movements (SSSNNS): Its Dehumanizing and Destructive Influence on Individuals

As previously mentioned, this association was founded in 1993. It is organized within the Hussite Theological Faculty of Charles University. Zdeněk Vojtíšek is a founding member and one of the leaders of the "Society for the Study of Sects and New Religious Movements." Despite the association's claimed impartiality and scientific approach, external experts,* religious scholars and sociologists who have analyzed their publications conclude that their true objectives are to portray new religious movements as problematic, dangerous, and somewhat illegitimate groups. While their descriptions often carry a stigmatizing tone, which certainly does not foster open interfaith dialogue.

*For example: Dušan Lužný, Zdeněk Nešpor, Milan Fujda, David Zbíral, Andrea Beláňová.

It has been noted that their media presence and rhetoric in the media often manifest as evaluative judgments filled with negative connotations. This resulted in resistance to views and practices perceived by members of the "Society for the Study of Sects and New Religious Movements" as unorthodox,

deviant, and consequently, potentially dangerous. From one anti-cult publication to another, there are noticeable implicit oppositions:

– Traditional church vs. sect,

– Safety vs. societal threat,

– Familiar and customary vs. foreign and unknown,

– Church missionary work vs. illegitimate recruitment using manipulation in a sect (cult).

Considering that media-based informational terror attacks are currently one of the main causes of spikes in post-traumatic stress disorders among the population, it is reasonable to conclude that the activities of anti-cult organizations have traumatic consequences on people's health. Today, there are several medical studies [13, 14] that confirm that exposure to traumatic content can activate fear schemas in the brain, trigger negative memories, and generally lead to post-traumatic mental disorders in individuals. While repeated coverage of traumatic dehumanizing stories in the media can prolong acute experiences. Depressive thoughts constantly replayed in the mind can exacerbate stress, worsening a person's mental state and directly affecting their physical health.

The double standards of this association are reflected in its very name: "Society for the Study of Sects and New Religious Movements," meaning that there are religious movements and there are sects (or cults) separately, knowingly deprived of the right to social status by this division.

In light of the above, the question remains: how is it that today, in an era of democracy, freedom of speech, and freedom of opinion, there are self-proclaimed public arbiters deciding who, what, and how to believe, passing judgments on whether certain organizations are acceptable, thus actively contributing to the revival of Nazism?

Anti-cult organizations, through their activities, directly oppose all principles of democracy, consistently and systematically violating the law, endangering lives, violating the presumption of innocence, dehumanizing people, inciting religious hatred in the rest of society, and creating informational terror attacks in the media.

Speech by Steven Hassan at Charles University in Prague

Every two years the International Academy of Law and Mental Health (IALMH) holds an International Congress. In 2017, this congress was held in the Czech Republic in Prague at Charles

University. One of the attendees of this event was Steven Hassan, an American anti-cultist and deprogrammer [15].

Steven Hassan recently shared this memory on his Facebook page, where he mentioned his visit to Prague and presence at this congress in 2017.

Steven A Hassan shared a memory.
July 11 at 11:12 AM
Memento Thomas Gutheil getting an award at the IALMH.org congress I attended in Prague. I look forward to the next one commencing on July 22nd in Barcelona. I present on a panel as well as by myself.
7 years ago
Your memories
Steven A Hassan
July 11, 2017
At Inauguration ceremony for the International Academy of Law and Mental Health at Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic this past Sunday evening. My mentor, top forensic psychiatrist Thomas Gutheil is the bearded man presenting the Gutheil Award to the incoming President of the Academy.

Screenshot from Steven Hassan Facebook page

This event was mentioned in the journal *Dingir* (DINGIR 4/2017), whose editor-in-chief is Zdeněk Vojtíšek. Moreover, Claire Klingenberg, a student at the Hussite Theological Faculty of Charles University, interviewed Steven Hassan* on July 8, 2017. The interview was edited by Zdeněk Wojtisek and published in *Dingir* [16].

**Steven Hassan is an American anti-cultist and deprogrammer, and a formerly active member of CAN, a criminal organization repeatedly convicted of kidnapping, forcible detention, and psychological, physical, and sometimes sexual abuse against individuals.*

As stated in an article published in *The Dingir*:

"**Steven Hassan has had an extraordinary, albeit indirect, impact on Czech society. His book Combating Mind Control** (1990) was published in Czech under the title "*Jak čelit psychické manipulaci zhoubných kultů*" (How to Counter the Psychological Manipulation of Pernicious Cults) (Brno: Tomáš Janeček Publishing House, 1994) and throughout the 1990s had a strong influence on Czech debates about modern religiosity."

*"**His** [Steven Hassan's] **sharply critical stance on new religious movements is evident in his rejection of this neutral term, consistently referring to them as 'cults'."***

Rozhovor s výstupovým poradcem Stevenem Hassanem

LIDÉ JSOU VELMI OVLIVNITELNÍ

Claire Klingenberg a Zdeněk Vojtíšek

Steven Hassan (* 1954) se po své zkušenosti s Církví sjednocení (v tzv. munisty) a po zkušenosti v tzv. deprogramovacím stal profesionálním poradcem, který radí, jak by měli vystupovat ze sekt, jak by takovému výstupu mohli pomoci jejich příbuzní a známí a jak je možné se ze zkušeností se sektou zotavit. Jeho osobní hrdinský postoj k nucené náboženským houfům se odvětí v tom, že tento neutrální výraz odmítá a označuje je za sekty. Ve svém ideologickém boji proti novým náboženským houfům, který dlouhými proběhl v některých částech světa, je proto obvykle zařazován k tzv. zenitkumenismu hrozil.

Rozhovor s Stevenem Hassanem si můžete přečíst na stránkách 3 a 4.

Interview with Exit Counselor Steven Hassan

PEOPLE ARE VERY INFLUENCEABLE

Claire Klingenberg and Zdeněk Vojtíšek

Steven Hassan (*1954), after his experience with the Unification Church (commonly known as the Moonies) and with so-called deprogramming, he became a professional counselor. He advises on how individuals can leave cults, how their relatives and friends can assist in the process, and how to recover from a cult experience. His sharply critical stance on new religious movements is reflected in his rejection of this neutral term, consistently referring to them as "cults." In the ideological battle over the concept of new religious movements, which continues in parts of the world, he is typically classified as part of the anti-cult movement.

Lawyer and professor Alan W. Scheflin created a model of social influence that should be incorporated into law. The model must be comprehensive enough to cover as many types of situations as possible and assess both the influencer and the influenced.

For the influenced, it involves their vulnerabilities, personality, past, or whether there is violence in it. Also, their unhealthy relationships or hypnotizability. For the predator, it involves their personality traits. Are they narcissistic, sociopathic, what are their motives, what are the consequences of their actions, or what techniques do they use to spread their influence?

If someone is highly hypnotizable and influenceable, they will have fewer defense mechanisms unless they are inoculated to recognize what to avoid. Surprisingly, it doesn't take much inoculation.

Steven Hassan has had a significant, though indirect, influence on Czech society. His book Combating Mind Control (1990) was published in Czech as Jak čelit psychické manipulaci zhoubných kultů ("How to Face Psychological Manipulation of Destructive Cults") (Brno: Tomáš Janeček Publishing, 1994), and throughout the 1990s, it strongly influenced the Czech debate on new religiosity. The interview with Claire Klingenberg took place on July 8, 2017. At that time, Steven Hassan, as the founder of the Freedom of Mind Resource Center, spoke at the International Academy of Law and Mental Health congress in Prague. The introductory words were written, and the interview was edited by Zdeněk Vojtíšek.

Your life has been marked by your experience with the Moonies. Why do people like you join cults? Have the reasons for such conversions changed in recent years?

We often think we have control over ourselves, but we are constantly influenced by vast amounts of data we are not even aware of. In my work, I typically show clients videos from three experiments: Asch conformity experiments, Milgram's experiment on obedience, and Zimbardo's prison experiment. Sometimes, I also show a video from the show "Candid Camera": people enter an elevator where three others are already standing facing the wall. The newcomers are confused but also turn to face the wall for no reason.

Steven Hassan v Praze.

This beautifully illustrates our dislike of confusion. When the social script is disrupted, people instinctively and for self-preservation act on the thought: "There must be a reason for this."

For example, just being aware: "If a stranger calls you, no matter how touching their story is, never give them your credit card number. Never, never, never, never."

So, people are influenced by authorities from both sides. Both from the predators' side and from those warning them of danger.

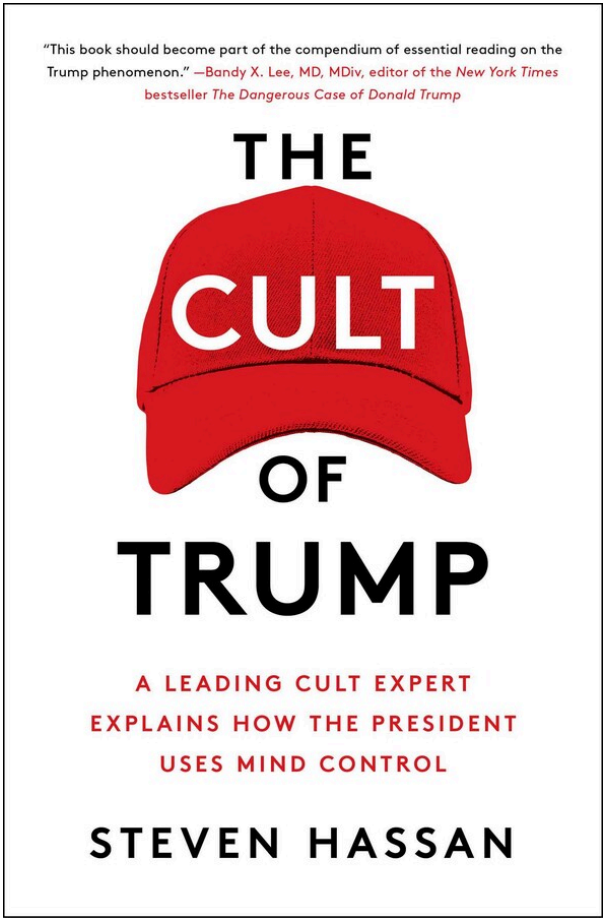
Steven Hassan in Prague.

From the journal Dingir (4/2017), dingir.cz. Editor-in-chief Zdeněk Vojtíšek

After reading this interview, one may get the impression that it was conducted not by a future professional, unbiased expert in the field of religious studies, but by yet another anti-cultist who is familiar only with such dehumanizing labels as “sect” and “cult”, and never once uses the more respectful expression “new religious movements”. What do they teach at Charles University about religious studies? Or does the presence of an interviewee in the person of deprogrammer and criminal gang member Steven Hassan allow an independent expert who claims to be competent to change her rhetoric? This is not only a question for the interviewer, but also for her university professors.

Another student at Charles University previously mentioned in this article, future religious scholar Jakub Jahl, employs a technique similar to the one used by deprogrammer Steven Hassan in his book – he uses in his writings the pejorative label "cult" in reference to Donald Trump.

In his book *The Cult of Trump*, anti-cultist Hassan **compares President Donald Trump to people like Jim Jones, David Koresh, Ron Hubbard and Sang Myung Moon**, arguing that the **presidency is much like a destructive cult**. Likewise, Czech anti-cultist Jakub Jahl links Donald Trump to the Mormons*.


"This book should become part of the compendium of essential reading on the Trump phenomenon." —Bandy X. Lee, MD, MDiv, editor of the New York Times bestseller The Dangerous Case of Donald Trump
THE
CULT
OF
TRUMP
A LEADING CULT EXPERT EXPLAINS HOW THE PRESIDENT USES MIND CONTROL
STEVEN HASSAN

Cover of the book "The Cult of Trump"

- In the work *Budoucnost jednoho iluzionisty: Kritické zhodnocení eseje Sigmunda Freuda "Budoucnost jedné iluze" ("The Future of an Illusionist: A Critical Evaluation of Sigmund Freud's Essay 'The Future of an Illusion'")* [17]
- And in the work «Q rides in on a white horse: Conspiracy theories among Mormons / Why does a 16-million-strong American religion tend toward QAnon?» [18]
- Budoucnost jednoho iluzionisty: Kritické zhodnocení eseje Sigmunda Freuda "Budoucnost jedné iluze" ("The Future of an Illusionist: A Critical Evaluation of Sigmund Freud's Essay 'The Future of an Illusion'")

*"Part of society naturally falls outside all these mentioned categories and is certainly a fertile ground for the formation of non-traditional para-religious movements, especially political cults (**Trump's MAGA cult, Babiš's** political **cult**, etc.) and conspiracist movements." [MOU1]*

- Another work by Jakub Jahl «Q rides in on a white horse: Conspiracy theories among Mormons / Why does a 16-million-strong American religion tend toward QAnon?»[18]

«*In this paper, I will attempt to summarize all of these themes, but also add my interpretation of why the Mormon conspiracy scene is becoming more visible in the current era and **pathologized in the form of the violent uprising of Trump supporters at the U.S. Capitol***».[MOU1]

During this event, a storm was supposed to be overthrowing the puppet government of the United States, **not unlike the Trump crowd attempted to do in January 2021**.

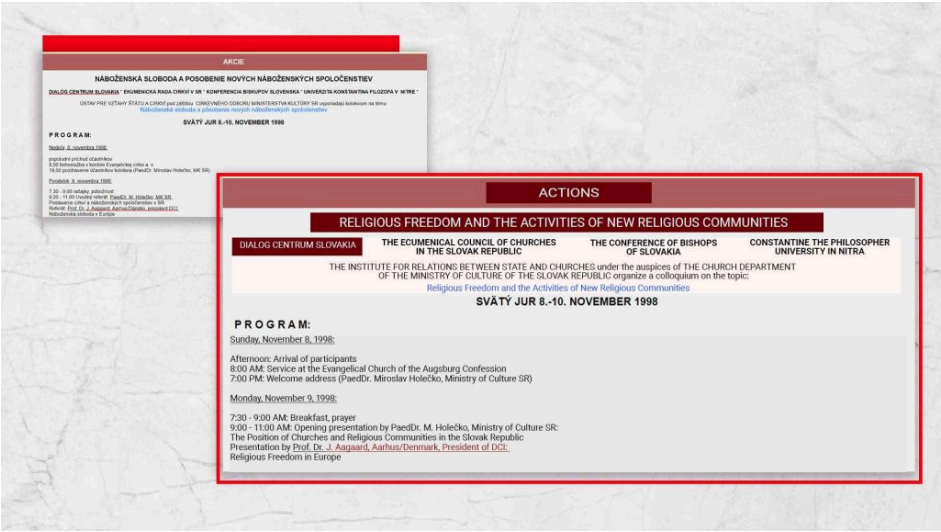
It is now widely believed that **the person behind the Q account is Ron Watkinson, a Trump supporter** and administrator of the 8chan network where Q first appeared. But **he is not Trump's only prophet, as is evident from Taylor's conspiracy church**, which operates on a similar basis to QAnon (but with a publicly known leader).

"So the question is where will the Mormon conspiracy movement go from here, as this informal community is desperate for a leader who will fulfill their vision. ***However, with the upcoming presidential candidacy of Donald Trump in 2024 and the resurgence of QAnon activity, it is reasonable to fear the another radicalization of Mormon neo-fundamentalists.*** *The LDS Church is not very good at dealing with this phenomenon and, apart from excommunicating specific individuals, has few tools to prevent the fundamentalists in its midst from developing further.* ***So it seems that the neo-fundamentalist movement will grow and find new ways to spread its vision among Mormon members****."*

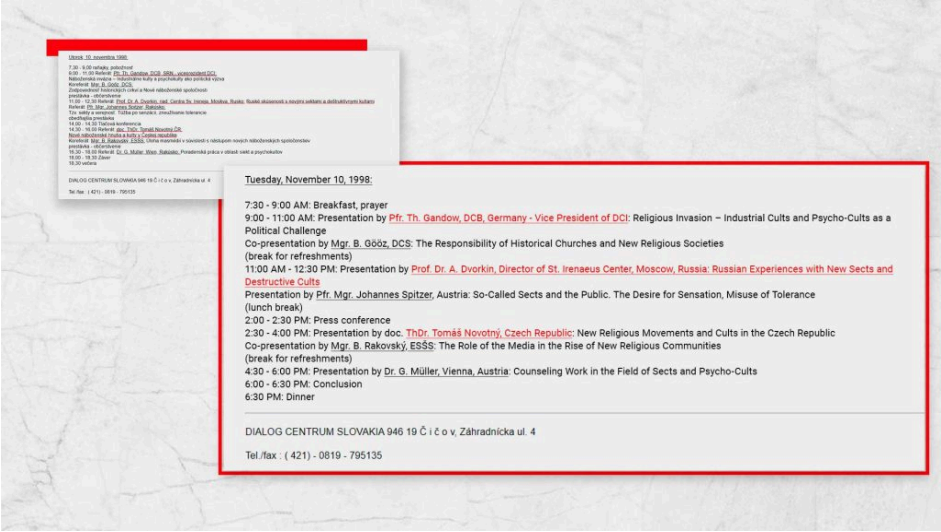
As we can see, both representatives of the anti-cult movement apply the labels "cult" and "sect". Both anti-cultists use the Nazi

method of “guilt by association,” and a method of dehumanization and stigmatization. They compare previously stigmatized and dehumanized organizations with Donald Trump. Apparently, based on the statement in *The Dingir*, Zdeněk Vojtíšek is right: indeed, Steven Hassan has had an extraordinary influence on the Czech anti-cult movement in general and his disciples in particular.

However, while Steven Hassan has had an extraordinary influence on the Czech anti-cult movement, Alexander Dvorkin from Russia (former vice-president of DCI, currently president of RACIRS), Thomas Gandow from Germany (president of DCI), Johannes Aagaard from Denmark (founder and president of DCI until 2003) and Tomáš Novotný from the Czech Republic (SSSNNS) have had a profound influence on the Slovak anti-cult movement as early as 1998 [19]:


AKCIE
NÁBOŽENSKÁ SLOBODA A POSOBENIE NOVÝCH NÁBOŽENSKÝCH SPOLOČENSTIEV
DIALÓG CENTRUM SLOVAKIA * EKUMENICKÁ RADA CIRKVÍ V SR * KONFERENCIA BISKUPOV SLOVENSKA * UNIVERZITA KONŠTANTÍNA FILOZOFA V NITRE *
ÚSTAV PRE VZŤAHY ŠTÁTU A CIRKVÍ pod záštitou CIRKEVNÉHO ODBORU MINISTERSTVA KULTÚRY SR usporiadajú kolokvium na tému
Náboženská sloboda a pôsobenie nových náboženských spoločenstiev
SVÄTÝ JUR 8.-10. NOVEMBER 1998
P R O G R A M:
Nedeľa 8. novembra 1998:
popoludní príchod účastníkov
8.00 bohoslužba v kostole Evanjelickej cirkvi a. v.
19.00 pozdravenie účastníkov kolokvia (PaedDr. Miroslav Holečko, MK SR)
Pondelok 9. novembra 1998:
7.30 - 9.00 ranajky, pobyt hostí
9.00 - 11.00 Úvodný referát: PaedDr. M. Holečko, MK SR:
Postavenie cirkví a náboženských spoločenstiev v SR
Referát: Prof. Dr. J. Aagaard, Aarhus/Dánsko, prezident DCI:
Náboženská sloboda v Európe
ACTIONS
RELIGIOUS FREEDOM AND THE ACTIVITIES OF NEW RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES
DIALOG CENTRUM SLOVAKIA
THE ECUMENICAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES IN THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC
THE CONFERENCE OF BISHOPS OF SLOVAKIA
CONSTANTINE THE PHILOSOPHER UNIVERSITY IN NITRA
THE INSTITUTE FOR RELATIONS BETWEEN STATE AND CHURCHES under the auspices of THE CHURCH DEPARTMENT OF THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE OF THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC organize a colloquium on the topic:
Religious Freedom and the Activities of New Religious Communities
SVÄTÝ JUR 8.-10. NOVEMBER 1998
P R O G R A M:
Sunday, November 8, 1998:
Afternoon: Arrival of participants
8:00 AM: Service at the Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession
7:00 PM: Welcome address (PaedDr. Miroslav Holečko, Ministry of Culture SR)
Monday, November 9, 1998:
7:30 - 9:00 AM: Breakfast, prayer
9:00 - 11:00 AM: Opening presentation by PaedDr. M. Holečko, Ministry of Culture SR:
The Position of Churches and Religious Communities in the Slovak Republic
Presentation by Prof. Dr. J. Aagaard, Aarhus/Denmark, President of DCI:
Religious Freedom in Europe

Screenshot from the website index.sk


Utorok 10. novembra 1998:
7.30 - 9.00 ranajky, pobyt hostí
6.00 - 11.00 Referát: Pfr. Th. Gandow, DCB, SRN, viceprezident DCI:
Náboženská invázia – industriálne kulty a psychokulty ako politická výzva
Korelát: Mgr. B. Gööz, DCS:
Spoločenská zodpovednosť cirkví a Nové náboženské spoločnosti
prestávka - občerstvenie
11.00 - 12.30 Referát: Prof. Dr. A. Dvorkin, ped. Centra Sv. Irenejo, Moskva, Rusko: Ruské skúsenosti s novými sektami a deštruktívnymi kultami
Referát: Pfr. Mgr. Johannes Spitzer, Rakúsko:
Tzv. sekty a senzácie: Trpezlivá pre senzácie, zneužívanie tolerancie
(obedňajšia prestávka)
14.00 - 14.30 Tlačová konferencia
14.30 - 16.00 Referát: doc. ThDr. Tomáš Novotný, ČR:
Nové náboženské hnutia a kulty v Českej republike
Korelát: Mgr. B. Rakovský, ESŠS: Úloha masmédií v súvislosti s nástupom nových náboženských spoločenstiev
(prestávka na občerstvenie)
16.30 - 18.00 Referát: Dr. G. Müller, Viedeň, Rakúsko: Poradenská práca v oblasti sekt a psychokultov
18.00 - 18.30 Záver
18.30 večera
DIALOG CENTRUM SLOVAKIA 946 19 Č i č o v, Záhradnícka ul. 4
Tel./fax : (421) - 0819 - 795135
Tuesday, November 10, 1998:
7:30 - 9:00 AM: Breakfast, prayer
9:00 - 11:00 AM: Presentation by Pfr. Th. Gandow, DCB, Germany - Vice President of DCI: Religious Invasion – Industrial Cults and Psycho-Cults as a Political Challenge
Co-presentation by Mgr. B. Gööz, DCS: The Responsibility of Historical Churches and New Religious Societies
(break for refreshments)
11:00 AM - 12:30 PM: Presentation by Prof. Dr. A. Dvorkin, Director of St. Irenaeus Center, Moscow, Russia: Russian Experiences with New Sects and Destructive Cults
Presentation by Pfr. Mgr. Johannes Spitzer, Austria: So-Called Sects and the Public. The Desire for Sensation, Misuse of Tolerance
(lunch break)
2:00 - 2:30 PM: Press conference
2:30 - 4:00 PM: Presentation by doc. ThDr. Tomáš Novotný, Czech Republic: New Religious Movements and Cults in the Czech Republic
Co-presentation by Mgr. B. Rakovský, ESŠS: The Role of the Media in the Rise of New Religious Communities
(break for refreshments)
4:30 - 6:00 PM: Presentation by Dr. G. Müller, Vienna, Austria: Counseling Work in the Field of Sects and Psycho-Cults
6:00 - 6:30 PM: Conclusion
6:30 PM: Dinner
DIALOG CENTRUM SLOVAKIA 946 19 Č i č o v, Záhradnícka ul. 4
Tel./fax : (421) - 0819 - 795135

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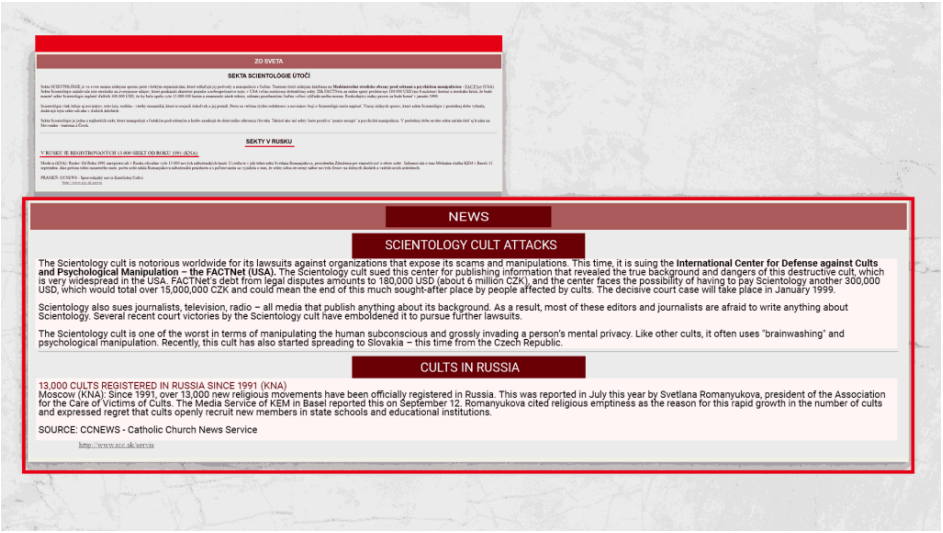

ZO SVETA
SEKTA SCIENTOLÓGIE ÚTOČÍ
SEKTY V RUSKU
V RUSKU JE REGISTROVANÝCH 13.000 SIEKT OD ROKU 1991 (KNA)
NEWS
SCIENTOLOGY CULT ATTACKS
The Scientology cult is notorious worldwide for its lawsuits against organizations that expose its scams and manipulations. This time, it is suing the International Center for Defense against Cults and Psychological Manipulation – the FACTNet (USA). The Scientology cult sued this center for publishing information that revealed the true background and dangers of this destructive cult, which is very widespread in the USA. FACTNet's debt from legal disputes amounts to 180,000 USD (about 6 million CZK), and the center faces the possibility of having to pay Scientology another 300,000 USD, which would total over 15,000,000 CZK and could mean the end of this much sought-after place by people affected by cults. The decisive court case will take place in January 1999.
Scientology also sues journalists, television, radio – all media that publish anything about its background. As a result, most of these editors and journalists are afraid to write anything about Scientology. Several recent court victories by the Scientology cult have emboldened it to pursue further lawsuits.
The Scientology cult is one of the worst in terms of manipulating the human subconscious and grossly invading a person's mental privacy. Like other cults, it often uses "brainwashing" and psychological manipulation. Recently, this cult has also started spreading to Slovakia – this time from the Czech Republic.
CULTS IN RUSSIA
13,000 CULTS REGISTERED IN RUSSIA SINCE 1991 (KNA)
Moscow (KNA): Since 1991, over 13,000 new religious movements have been officially registered in Russia. This was reported in July this year by Svetlana Romanyukova, president of the Association for the Care of Victims of Cults. The Media Service of KEM in Basel reported this on September 12. Romanyukova cited religious emptiness as the reason for this rapid growth in the number of cults and expressed regret that cults openly recruit new members in state schools and educational institutions.
SOURCE: CCNEWS - Catholic Church News Service

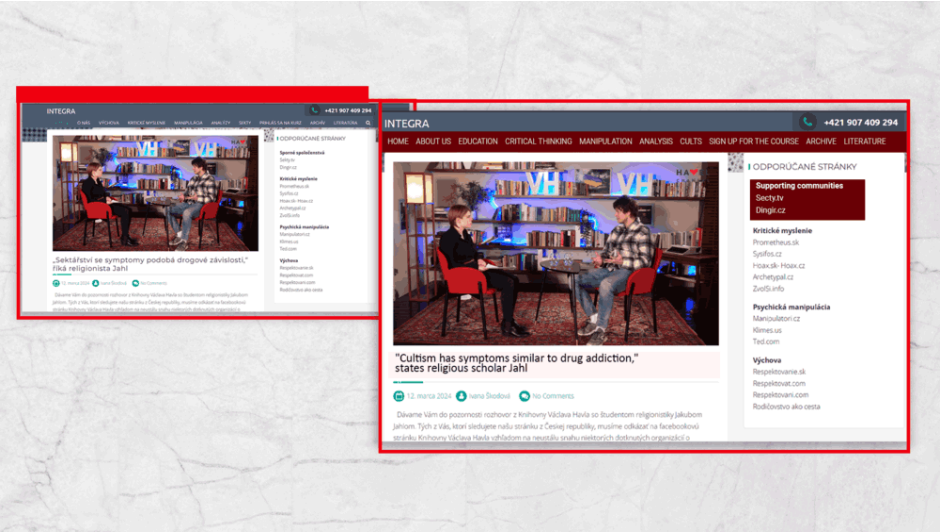
Screenshot from the website index.sk

ZAHRANIČNÉ
MALÝ SLOVNÍK SIEKT
SÍLY TEMNOTY
NETRADIČNÍ NÁBOŽENSTVÍ U NÁS
FOREIGN
LITTLE DICTIONARY OF SECTS /CZECH/
Author: K. Funke et al.
Published by: KARMELITE PUBLISHING HOUSE KOSTELNÍ VYDŘÍ 1998
Contents: Alphabetically sorted list of sects, New Age, and new religious movements with brief explanations.
POWERS OF DARKNESS /CZECH/
Author: Clinton Arnold
Published by: NÁVRAT DOMŮ Prague 1998
Contents: POWERS OF DARKNESS IN THE LIGHT OF THE BIBLE... OCCULTISM IN MODERN TIMES AND ITS REVELATION
UNCONVENTIONAL RELIGIONS IN OUR COUNTRY /CZECH/
Author: Zdeněk Vojtíšek
Published by: DINGIR Prague 1998
Contents: A current description of the situation regarding sects, cults, new religious movements, New Age, and other groups in the Czech Republic.

Screenshot from the website index.sk

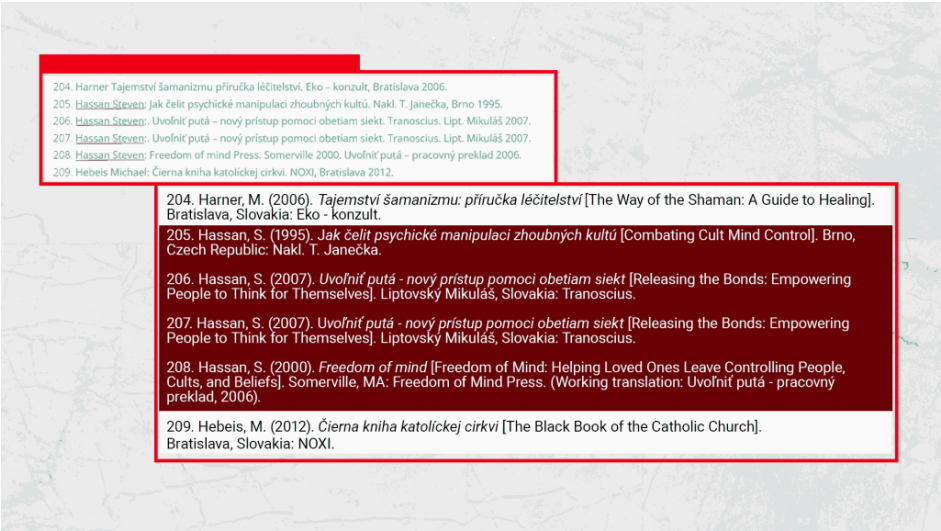
There are other members of the anti-cult movement besides Jakub Jahl and Kristina Ciroková, as well as representatives of

the “Society for the Study of Sects and New Religious Movements”, among them Ivan O. Štampač, Zdeněk Vojtíšek, Aleš Opatrny, Tomáš Novotny and Prokop Remeš, many of whom are connected with Charles University while others are connected with the media. Their activities are also noticeable in the information space of their neighboring country, Slovakia. For instance, the Slovak anti-cult website INTEGRA [20]



Screenshot from the Slovak anti-cult website INTEGRA oz-integra.sk

This website lists literature by Steven Hassan among its recommended readings [21].


204. Harner Tajemství šamanizmu příručka léčitelství. Eko – konzult, Bratislava 2006.
205. Hassan Steven: Jak čelit psychické manipulaci zhoubných kultů. Nakl. T. Janečka, Brno 1995.
206. Hassan Steven:. Uvoľniť putá – nový prístup pomoci obetiam siekt. Tranoscius. Lipt. Mikuláš 2007.
207. Hassan Steven:. Uvoľniť putá – nový prístup pomoci obetiam siekt. Tranoscius. Lipt. Mikuláš 2007.
208. Hassan Steven: Freedom of mind Press. Somerville 2000. Uvoľniť putá – pracovný preklad 2006.
209. Hebeis Michael: Čierna kniha katolickej cirkvi. NOXI, Bratislava 2012.
204. Harner, M. (2006). Tajemství šamanizmu: příručka léčitelství [The Way of the Shaman: A Guide to Healing]. Bratislava, Slovakia: Eko - konzult.
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206. Hassan, S. (2007). Uvoľniť putá - nový prístup pomoci obetiam siekt [Releasing the Bonds: Empowering People to Think for Themselves]. Liptovský Mikuláš, Slovakia: Tranoscius.
207. Hassan, S. (2007). Uvoľniť putá - nový prístup pomoci obetiam siekt [Releasing the Bonds: Empowering People to Think for Themselves]. Liptovský Mikuláš, Slovakia: Tranoscius.
208. Hassan, S. (2000). Freedom of mind [Freedom of Mind: Helping Loved Ones Leave Controlling People, Cults, and Beliefs]. Somerville, MA: Freedom of Mind Press. (Working translation: Uvoľniť putá - pracovný preklad, 2006).
209. Hebeis, M. (2012). Čierna kniha katolíckej cirkvi [The Black Book of the Catholic Church]. Bratislava, Slovakia: NOXI.

Screenshot from the Slovak anti-cult website INTEGRA oz-integra.sk

Conclusion

Observing the actions of Czech anti-cultists today brings to mind how the Lutheran Apologetic Center led by Walter Künneth had acted in the past before the Nazis came to power, and how it changed its rhetoric during their rise to power. Initially, the Lutherans' activities were conducted under the "noble" pretext of merely creating lists of religious organizations, which they would later label as "cults" and "sects." Yet later on, it was the Lutherans who revived an extreme form of violent inquisition, and it was the Lutheran centers for the study of cults that contributed to making the National Socialist Party of Germany an extreme form of Nazism in its most brutal form known in history.

What is the new generation of anti-cultists in the Czech Republic, including students of Charles University, actually studying today? And what are the goals of the growing anti-cult movement as a whole? Are they future deprogrammers and mind control experts? Or self-proclaimed arbiters of human destinies who imagine themselves as gods? Time will tell. The main thing is that we do not become witnesses to another lesson in history, where yet another successor of an apologetic center, committed to fighting sects, compels millions to shout: “Heil, Hitler!”

Sources:

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19. http://www.index.sk/michael/AKTUALITY/indexright.htm

20. https://oz-integra.sk/

21. https://oz-integra.sk/zoznam-literatury-o-z-integra/

Aagaard Dialog Center Dmitry Smirnov
Friedrich Haack Jakub Jahl Johannes Aagaard
Kristina Ciroková RACIRS Steven Hassan
Thomas Gandow Zdeněk Vojtíšek

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NEXT STORY
Nazi Germany and Modern Russia

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ARTICLES

What you’re doing will greatly enrage the enemy, and he will spread all sorts of outrageous slander ahead of you. He’ll do this to prevent people from encountering your work. Prejudices will push them away from you.

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2024, there was an attempt on

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